



# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## NEWS RELEASE

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## **KENTUCKY SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF HOSTS ACADEMIC BOWL**

(Frankfort, Ky.) – The [Kentucky School for the Deaf](#) in Danville will host the Gallaudet University [Southeast Regional](#) High School [Academic Bowl](#), Feb. 26-27. It is the first time the school has hosted the event.

Each year, teams from five regions across the United States and Canada compete to attend the National Academic Bowl, which this year will be held April 23-26 at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.

[Gallaudet University](#), the only liberal arts university in the world that directly serves deaf and hard of hearing students, established its first National Academic Bowl in 1997 with the goal of promoting academic competition among school teams and fostering academic excellence and achievement among deaf and hard of hearing students across the country.

The competition is open to teams of high school students currently enrolled in recognized residential or day schools for deaf and hard of hearing students or mainstreamed schools. Eighteen teams from Kentucky, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. will compete in Danville.

Kentucky's team is comprised of students from the Kentucky School for the Deaf: Bethany Yancey, a senior from Danville; Quanchen Warmack, a senior from Lexington; Jonathan Demaree, a senior from Frankfort; and Nia Ralston, a junior from Bowling Green. Co-coaches for the Kentucky School for the Deaf Academic Bowl team are Lee Alan Roher and Kimberly Curtis, who are on staff at the Kentucky School for the Deaf.

Teams are divided into two pools. Students compete in three-round preliminary matches which consist of a question and answer game of general knowledge and quick recall. Questions are drawn from a number of categories including social studies, language and literature; science and technology, mathematics, the arts; deaf studies, current events, potpourri and pop culture, leisure and sports.

The top teams in each region will move on to the national competition.

(more)

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Opening ceremonies for the competition in Danville are scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thurs., Feb. 25 in the gym at the Kentucky School for the Deaf. Student competition gets underway at 8 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 26 and concludes with the championship match at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27 followed by an awards ceremony at 8 p.m.

Gallaudet University President Robert “Bobbi” Cordano is scheduled to attend the event in Danville and meet with each team. Kentucky Commissioner of Education Stephen Pruitt will be attending the competition Friday afternoon.

The Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) is operated by the Kentucky Department of Education and provides programs for Kentucky’s deaf and hard of hearing students. The school offers an instructional program for students from preschool through the 12th grade, a residential program and an outreach program. The mission of KSD is to ensure every child is given the opportunity to achieve his or her maximum potential to become confident, self-supporting and independent and have a rewarding future upon graduation as a productive member of society.

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